Judge Kristin Richardson

Judge Richardson was elected to an open seat on the King County Superior Court bench in 2016. She earned her bachelor's degree in Journalism from Washington State University and worked as a newspaper reporter before attending Willamette University College of Law, where she was Executive Editor of the Willamette Law Review. Before taking the bench, Judge Richardson spent 27 years at the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, where she tried more than 100 jury trials, including 25 murder trials, and headed the office's Cold Case Homicide Unit. She also was an adjunct professor at Seattle University School of Law. She received the Legacy Award from Washington Women Lawyers (WWL) in 2019. Judge Richardson served 15 years on the board of the WWL Foundation, including two terms as president, and 13 years on the Judicial Evaluation Committee. She also spent several years on the board of Victim Support Services, which provides advocacy and runs the state crisis line. Judge Richardson is co-chair of the Washington Pattern Instruction (WPIC) Committee. She has served on the committee for 17 years. For the state Superior Court Judges Association (SCJA), she is in the workgroup implementing new state domestic violence treatment guidelines. She also serves on the SCJA Judicial Ethics Committee and Criminal Law and Rules Committee. For King County Superior Court, she has served on the Juror / Interpreter, Family Law, and Courthouse Security committees.